

**RIPPLE REFRESH CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR SEQUENTIALLY
REFRESHING A SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY SYSTEM**

ABSTRACT

[0035] A method and circuit is disclosed for refreshing a memory system. The memory system has a first memory block coupled to a refresh timer, and one or more subsequent memory blocks without refresh timers contained therein. The refresh timer generates a system refresh signal for refreshing the memory system, and all memory blocks have a refresh controller contained therein which enable sequential refresh of the subsequent memory blocks.

48322_2.DOC